

## Message Text

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73

ACTION DLOS-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 ISO-00 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-14 RSC-01

CG-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-07 PA-04 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 AID-20 CEQ-02

COA-02 COME-00 EB-11 EPA-04 IO-14 NSF-04 SCI-06 FEA-02

ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00

OMB-01 CIEP-03 CEA-02 TRSE-00 OIC-04 DRC-01 /297 W

----- 063301

R 261939Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5549

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY CARIRO

S E C R E T CARACAS 827

FROM US DEL LOS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLOS

SUBJ: LOS MEETING WITH ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION

1. SUMMARY. US DEL MET WITH ETHIOPIANS ON 21 AUG FOR EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON STRAITS ISSUE. US REP SET OUT US POSITION ON STRAITS AND OTHER NAVIGATIONAL ISSUES, URGING CONTINUED ETHIOPIAN LEADERSHIP IN OAU ON THESE MATTERS. ETHIOPIAN REP RESPONDED WITH FULL ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT AND GAVE MEANINGFUL INSIGHT TO OAU GROUP VIEWS ON SUBJECT. END SUMMARY.

2. US REP, JOHN NORTON MOORE, JCS REP, REAR ADMIRAL MAX MORRIS, AND MYRON NORDQUIST, D/LOS, MET WITH ETHIOPIAN REP, LT HAILU MAKONNEN ON 21 AUG. MEETING PRIMARILY TO GIVE CONCRETE  
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SUPPORT TO HAILU FOR HIS LEADERSHIP IN OAU STRAITS TEAM AND HIS

KEEPING THAT GROUP FROM PURSUING PATH OF OTHER THAN FREE TRANSIT. IN RESPONSE TO MOORE'S EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION, HAILU REITERATED THAT ETHIOPIA MUST HAVE FULL FREEDOM OF TRANSIT DUE BAB EL MANDEB. HE STATED SINCE HIS COUNTRY ALREADY GEOGRAPHICALLY DISADVANTAGED, MANDATORY TO HAVE STRAITS FULLY FREE.

3. MOORE EXPLAINED RECENT US DEL MOVEMENTS VIS-A-VIS ARAB STATES IN TRYING TO GAIN ARAB LEAGUE SUPPORT FOR FREE TRANSIT. HAILU RESPONDED STRONGLY, SAYING THAT REMOVAL OF ARAB OPPOSITION WOULD MAKE HIS WORK WITHIN OAU MUCH EASIER. HE ADDED THAT MAJOR PROBLEM WAS FINDING A TIRAN SOLUTION ACCEPTABLE TO EGYPT.

4. RADM MORRIS INQUIRED ABOUT OAU TRENDS ON STRAITS, ADDING WE SEE SIGNS OF A PACKAGE SOLUTION AT NEXT SESSION. HAILU STATED THAT AFIRANS#WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION MOROCCO WOULD EVENTUALLY COME ALONG IF DEVELOPED COUNTRIES FORTHCOMING ON ISSUES ATTRACTIVE TO OAU, I.E., EZ#AND SEABEDS. HE ADDED THAT OVERFLIGHT AND SUBMERGED TRANSIT STILL HIGHLY EMOTIONAL SUBJECTS NEEDING EXPLANATION.

5. MOORE ASKED HAILU FOR OPINION ON TANZANIAN POSITIONS X# ATTITUDES SO MUCH AT VARIANCE WITH OTHER OAU. RESPONSE WAS THAT PART OF PROBLEM WAS IDEOLOGICAL BUT MUCH WAS MATTER OF HARD BARGAINING POSITION. IN FACT, ACCORDING TO HAILU, HE CAN SEE NO RATIONAL REASON FOR TANZANIAN ANTICS, THEREFORE PRESUMES THEY MUST HAVE TACTICAL BASIS.

6. RADM MORRIS ASKED IF HAILY HAD SPECIFIC IDEAS ON HOW TO BRING EGYPT ALONG, POINTING OUT EGYPTIAN ANOMOLY IN SUEZ REOPENING UNDER ESSENTIALLY FREE TRANSIT (TREATY OF CONSTANTINOPLE) WHILE PRESSING FOR LESSER REGIME IN BAB EL MANDEM HAILU RESPONDED THAT THIS WAS POINTED OUT TO EGYPT TO NO AVAIL, AND THAT ONLY REAL ISSUE WITH LEVERAGE WAS TIRAN. HE STATED THAT THE CANAL PLUS AQABA WERE VIEWED ALMOST MYSTICALLY BY EGYPTIANS AS NASSER HERITAGE. US HAS SOLVED CANAL, NOW THERE MUST BE PARALLEL SOLUTION TO TIRAN.

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7. HAILU MENTIONED HE HAD STRAITS WORKING PAPERS FROM HIS GROUP AND SAID HE WOULD DELIVER SHORTLY. SUBSEQUENTLY HE GAVE TO NORDQUIST LATER IN DAY. AT CLOSE OF MEETING, MOORE AGAIN EXPRESSED US DEL APPRECIATION FOR ETHIOPIAN WORK WITHIN AFRICAN GROUP, SAYING WE HOPED IT WOULD CONTINUE, HAILU RESPONDED AFFIRMATIVELY.

8. ANALYSIS: IT SEEMS CLEAR THAT ETHIOPIA IS TIED WITH ALGERIA

AND TUNISIA IN KEEPING OAU STRAITS VIEWS TILTED IN OUR DIRECTION.  
MAJOR ASSISTANCE WE CAN GIVE IS TO SOLVE TIRAN, THUS RELIEVING  
ARAB PRESSURES ON OTHER AFRICANS. FROM EVERY INDICATION,  
THE TWO ETHIOPIANS HERE WILL CONTINUE TO HOLD FIRM ON FREE  
TRANSIT (HAILU HAD CONFIRMED SEPARATELY TO RADM MORRIS THAT  
THIS WAS A SINGLE MAJOR INSTRUCTION GIVEN THEM IN ADDIS)  
BUT NEED EVERY ASSISTANCE POSSIBLE IN FACE OF TANZANIAN  
ATTACKS WITHIN OAU GROUP.  
STEVENSON

NOTE BY OC/T: # AS RECEIVED.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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